Information regarding stocks of free yarn in hank and cone forms as on 1st July, 1987 is not available.

Relief supplies to Jaffna Tamils

*36. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of relief supplies being given by the Government of India and the Red Cross Society to the Sri Lanka Tamils in Jaffna region;

(b) whether any monitoring is being done by the Government of India to ensure proper and regular supply of goods to the affected people;

(c) what is Sri Lanka Government's present stand on resolving the ethnic issue; and

(d) what further steps Government are taking to help resolve the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) After the Agreement between the Government of India and Sri Lanka on June 15 concerning modalities for despatch of relief supplies, four shipments of supplies have reached Jaffna. The supplies consist of essential food items, kerosene and medicines. About 3000 tonnes of supplies have been sent so far.

(b) Yes, Sir. 6 members of the Indian Red Cross and representatives of the Indian Commission in Sri Lanka have been associated with the distribution. Government is satisfied that the supplies are reaching the affected people.

(c) and (d) We are continuing discussions with the Government of Sri-Lanka and other affected parties to find a political solution to the ethnic problem.

Bank Credit to Textile Industry

*37. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what was the amount of bank credit made available to textile industry during the years 1985, 1986 and so far in 1987; and

(b) what steps Government are taking to regenerate the textile industry by providing greater credit for it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(b) Government introduced the Soft Loan Scheme in 1976 and in August, 1986 the Textile Modernisation Fund Scheme for the modernisation of the textile industry. The World Bank and Japan have also offered assistance for the modernisation/rehabilitation of the Indian textile industry.

Pak-Chinese Defence Links

*38. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report in the Hindustan Times dated the 15th July, 1987, captioned "Stronger Pak-Chinese defence links";

(b) if so, what is Government's information about the steps being taken by Pakistan and China to expand the friendship and cooperation between the armed forces of the two countries; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) It is understood leaders of the armed forces of the two countries keep in touch with one aonther. It is expected that such consultations lead to friendship and cooperation in mutually agreed areas.

(c) Government keep under constant review all developments which have a bearing on the country's security.

Communal violence in Meerut and Delhi

*39. SHRI SHARAD YADAV:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated number of persons and also loss of public and private property following the recent communal violence in Meerut, Delhi and other parts of the country;

(b) what, according to the inquiry, if any, made by Government are the main causes for the eruption of communal violence in Meerut, Delhi and at other places; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to check the frequent eruption of communal violence in the country resulting in heavy loss of life and weakening the country's economy besides disrupting communal harmony among the various communities?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) As per available information, a total of 167 persons died and property worth Rs. 345.92 lakhs (approx.) was destroyed in the recent communal violence in Merrut, Delhi and in other major incidents of communal violence in the country in the year, 1987.

(b) The communal incidents/riots are the handiwork of anti-social and communal elements. However, the Government of Uttar Pradesh has appointed a 3-Member Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Gyan Prakash, former Comptroller and Auditor General of India to look into various aspects of the recent Meerut riots and to suggest ways and means for preventing such communal violence in future. A Judicial inquiry has also been ordered in the incidents in Maliana.

(c) Even though the primary responsibility of maintenance of peace rests with the State Governments, the Central Government have never been found wanting in the matter of providing assistance to the State Governments in the shape of para-military forces and equipment in restoring peace and communal harmony. The Central Government have also been cautioning and alerting the State Governments to keep a very close watch on communal, fundamentalist and anti-social elements. Shri Chidambaram alongwith Smt. Mohsina Kidwai and later the Home Minister and the Prime Minister visited the riot affected areas of Meerut and held detailed discussions with the Chief Minister and other senior officials in Meerut, and gave instructions for speedy relief and rehabilitation measures. Similarly, Shri Chidambaram visited Gujarat and held detailed discussions with the State authorities with a view to maintaining peace and providing speedy relief measures to the victims of the communal riots. The Home Minister had also invited the leaders of Opposition so as to take benefit of their advice and all present in the meeting agreed to issue an unanimous appeal for maintaining communal harmony during the celebration of Id.

2. It may also not be out of place to mention that as back as October, 1980, detailed guidelines were first circulated to the various State Government/UTs for maintaining communal harmony and public order. Thereafter in 1985, these guidelines were given a fresh look and were revised and re-circulated to all the State Governments/UTs in July, 1985.